



McGregor W. Scott
United States Attorney
Eastern District of California

Sacramento
501 I. Street, Ste 10-100
Sacramento CA 95814
Tel (916) 554-2700
TTY (916) 554-2855

NEWS RELEASE

Fresno
2500 Tulare St., Suite 4401
Fresno, CA 93721
Tel (559) 497-4000
TTY (559) 497-4500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 14, 2006

Contact: Mary Wenger, 916-554-2730
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home/>

**MANTECA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS ABOUT
BEING A DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AGENT**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that JOHN D. COHEN, 45, of Manteca, entered a guilty plea today, admitting that he made false statements to federal agents in connection with their investigation into COHEN's representations that he was a Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agent.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the DEA, Sacramento District Office.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Carolyn K. Delaney , who is prosecuting the case, the defendant admitted during his guilty plea that on February 27, 2006, he entered the federal courthouse in Sacramento and displayed his wallet which a Courthouse Security Officer (CSO) observed to contain what appeared to be a DEA badge. The CSO, himself a retired DEA agent, found it suspicious that COHEN could not produce his credentials and notified the local DEA office. During an interview with real DEA agents COHEN said that he had been playing "cops and robbers" with his children and forget about the badge which had been a gift when he left the Navy, and that he had never presented himself as a DEA agent. In fact, the prior week COHEN had entered the Coast Guard Base on Treasure Island posing as a DEA agent and sold the security company on the base a Crown Victoria outfitted with police lights and other paraphernalia.

The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr. on November 13, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

The maximum sentence the defendant faces is 5 years in custody, a fine of \$250,000, and a 3-year term of supervised release.

###